

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1734

INFO USLO PEKING

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

FBIS OKINAWA

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9925

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH

SUBJECT: AUGUST 23 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL CALLS FOR WELL-  
CONTROLLED CONTINUATION OF ANTI-TENG CAMPAIGN

REF: (A) HK 9751 (NOTAL) (B) HK 9646 (C) HK 9524  
(D) HK 8799

SUMMARY: IN CONTRAST TO AN AUGUST 11 EDITORIAL WHICH APPEARED  
TO BE A SPECIFIC WARNING TO THOSE WHO WANT TO DAMPEN THE CAM-  
PAIGN AGAINST TENG, AN AUGUST 23 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL  
STRONGLY SUGGESTS THAT THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST TENG HSIAO-PING  
WILL NOT ESCALATE FUTHER AND WILL REMAIN UNDER THE LEADER-  
SHIP OF PARTY COMMITTEES "AT ALL LEVELS". END SUMMARY

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1. DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, MANY MEDIA ARTICLES (REF B)

HAVE APPARENTLY HAD DIFFICULTY IN RESOLVING THE CONTRADICTION BETWEEN CONTINUING THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST CAPITALIST ROADERS "WHO ARE STILL IN THE PARTY" WHILE MEETING THE PRESSING NEEDS OF EARTHQUAKE RELIEF. AT THE SAME TIME, THESE ARTICLES HAVE STRESSED THE NEED TO UNITE UNDER THE BROAD LEADERSHIP OF THE PARTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HEADED BY CHAIRMAN MAO. AN AUGUST 11 PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL APPEARED TO BE A SPECIFIC WARNING BY THE PROMOTERS OF THE CAMPAIGN THAT THE TANGSHAN-FENGNNAN EARTH-WUAKE CANNOT BE USED AS AN EXCUSE TO CUT OFF THE CAMPAIGN. IT APPEARS THAT SOME LEADERS MAY HAVE SOUGHT TO USE THE EARTHQUAKE AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO PREVENT THE EXPANSION OF ATTACKS AGAINST OTHER LEADERS, A MOVEMENT THAT MAY HAVE BEEN GETTING UNDERWAY IN JULY (REF C, D)

2. SIMILAR IN SOME RESPECTS TO THE AUGUST 11 EDITORIAL AND SEVERAL AUGUST RED FLAG ARTICLES, TODAY'S PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIAL, ENTITLED "GRASP THE ESSENTIAL POINTS: DEEPEN THE CRITIISM OF TENG," ADVOCATES A CONTINUING OF THE CAMPAIGN WITHIN CLOSELY CONTROLLED BOUNDS". THE EDITORIAL SINGLES OUT TENG'S "GENERAL PROGRAM" FOR SPECIFIC CRITICISM AND EHORTS LEADING CADRES TO UNITE WITH "MORE THAN 95 PERCENT OF THE CADRES AND BROAD MASSES" IN DEEPENING THE CRITICISM OF TENG'S LINE. HOWEVER, THE EDITORIAL SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THE "STEP BY STEP" MOVEMENT TO CRITICIZE THENG AND OTHER CAPITALIST ROADERS IN THE PARTY MUST BE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PARTY COMMITTEES AT ALL LEVELS AND CALLS UPON THE COUNTRY TO UNITE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE HEADED BY CHAIRMAN MAO. AT THE SAME TIME, TENDENCIES TOWARD "MOUNTAIN-TOPSIM" AND THE SETTLING OF OLD FACTIONAL SCORES ARE DECRIED, WHILE ALL CADRES MUST MAINTAIN VIGILANCE AGAINST THE SABOTAGE ACTIVITIES OF CLASS ENEMIES.

3. THIS EDITORIAL COMES AT A TIME WHEN CONTROVERSIAL PROVINCIAL LEADERS ARE REAPPERRAING AND AMID SOME SIGNS THAT THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY MAY BECOME INVOLVED IN AN ATTEMPT TO HELP RESTORE PROVINICAL AUTHORITY IN THOSE AREAS SUFFERING ACUTE FACTIONAL PROBLMES (REF A). MOREOVER, THE CONTRADICTIONS BETWEEN "UNITING UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF PARTY COMMITTEES AS ALL LEVELS" AND AN ESPOUSED NEED TO CONTINUE THE STRUGGLE AGAINST CAPITALIST ROADERS WHO ARE STILL "INFECTING" THSE  
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BODIES MAY HAVE BECOME LESS ACUTE. TODAY'S EDITORIAL REPEATS THE CALL FOR THOS CADRES WHO HAVE MADE MISTAKES (LESS THAN 5 PERCENT) TO INTERGRATE THEMSELVES WITH THE MASSES AND UNDERSCORES THE MAOIST DICTUM "CURE THE SICKNESS TO SAVE THE PATIENT". PRESUMBABLY THESE CADRES WILL BE ABLE TO RETAIN THEIR POSITIONS.

4. IN SUM, IT APPEARS THAT THE GREATEST FEARS OF THE CAMPAIGN

PROMOTERS HAVE BECOME MORE AND MORE OBVIOUS TO MANY CHINESE LEADERS. THE WEAKENED STATE OF NATIONAL AND PROVINCIAL AUTHORITY, RECURRENT FACTIONALISM, SABOTAGE AND EARTHQUAKE RELIEF REQUIREMENTS HAVE NECESSITATED A DRASTIC REDUCTION OF THE DISRUPTIVE POTENTIAL OF A COUNTINUED CAMPAIGN AGAINST "CAPITALIST ROADERS WHO ARE STILL IN THE PARTY".  
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## Message Attributes

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